

**From:** Bloomberg BNA [bloomberg@bna.com]  
**Sent:** 7/21/2017 12:07:33 AM  
**To:** Duffy, Rick [Duffy.Rick@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** July 21 -- Daily Environment Report

-->



## Daily Environment Report

July 21, 2017 - Number 139

The Bloomberg BNA Daily Environment Report is brought to you by EPA Libraries. Please note, these materials may be copyrighted and should not be forwarded outside of the U.S. EPA. If you have any questions or no longer wish to receive these messages, please contact Josue Rivera-Olds at [rivera-olds.josue@epa.gov](mailto:rivera-olds.josue@epa.gov), 202-566-1558.

### Leading the News

#### *Chemicals*

##### **EPA Weighs Changing Chemical Data Reporting Rules**

The EPA may revise a regulation used to collect chemical production volume and other information from chemical manufacturers, according to an updated spring regulatory agenda it released July 20.

#### *Climate Regulation*

##### **EPA Air Agenda Mum on Fate of Biggest Climate Rules**

The EPA put its methane standards on an immediate chopping block but did not say when it will address carbon dioxide limits for power plants or whether it will repeal the scientific finding underpinning all climate change rules.

#### *Energy*

##### **Energy Department Weighs Market Approach for Efficiency Rules**

The Energy Department for the first time may modify its appliance and equipment energy conservation standards program by adding a market-based mechanism similar to fuel standards for automakers, according to the spring 2017 regulatory agenda.

#### *Regulatory Policy*

##### **Delay of Farmworker Protection Rule Could Be Announced Soon**

The EPA will extend the deadline that state agriculture agencies are facing to meet new rules

shielding farmworkers from pesticide exposure.

#### *Water Pollution*

##### **Proposed Rewrite of Wetlands Rule Expected by December, EPA Says**

Rewriting rules that clarify the geographic scope of the Clean Water Act and limit toxic wastewater releases from power plants top the EPA's agenda on water-related regulations released July 20.

## **News**

#### *Air Pollution*

##### **Lawsuit Targets 'Unenforceable' Texas Air Pollution Permits**

Texas issued "unenforceable" air pollution permits to petroleum refineries and a power plant, environmental groups said as they seek to force the EPA to require additional pollution controls.

#### *Air Pollution*

##### **VW Agrees to Pay California \$153.8 Million More in Diesel Case**

Volkswagen has agreed to pay California an additional \$153.8 million for violating state air quality rules stemming for its use of illegal emissions defeat devices in some diesel cars.

#### *Chemical Security*

##### **Federal Chemical Security Effort Evolves to Compliance**

Department of Homeland Security inspections of workplaces handling dangerous chemicals have entered a new stage with inspectors conducting follow-up checks to see if sites are providing the protections employers promised, an agency official said July 20.

#### *Chemicals*

##### **Small Businesses Praise Effort to Stop EPA's Solvent Rules**

Small companies in America's heartland welcomed a House committee's effort to block the EPA from restricting the use of three solvents and possibly forcing them to close their doors.

#### *Climate Change*

##### **Emissions Trading Key to South Korea's Climate Agenda**

South Korea's new president will rely heavily on the country's nascent cap-and-trade program and a plan to quadruple renewable energy to meet greenhouse gas reduction goals, the country's climate change ambassador told Bloomberg BNA.

#### *Coastal Zones*

##### **Israeli Lawmakers Decline to Close Beach Protection Loophole**

Israeli lawmakers narrowly rejected an effort to ban new construction within about 100 yards of the country's coastline.

#### *Energy*

##### **\$38.4 Billion Energy, Water Funding Bill Clears Senate Panel**

The Senate Appropriations Committee approved a \$38.4 billion fiscal year 2018 funding bill for the Energy Department, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and related agencies.

#### *Energy*

##### **Oregon Land Use Board Halts Portland Fossil Fuel Terminal Ban**

Portland said it might appeal an Oregon land use board's ruling that the city's ban on new or expanded terminals holding more than 2 million gallons of fossil fuel is unconstitutional.

#### *Energy*

##### **Russia Sanctions Energy Rewrite Stokes Cross-Capitol Clash**

Plans to scale back energy restrictions in a House version of a new Russia sanctions bill are already facing pushback across the Capitol.

### *Enforcement*

#### **Exxon to Challenge Treasury Finding It Violated Russia Sanctions**

Exxon Mobil Corp. says it is legally challenging a \$2 million fine assessed against it by the U.S. Treasury Department for "egregious" violations of sanctions against Russia when now-Secretary of State Rex Tillerson was chief executive.

### *Enforcement*

#### **Former Justice Official Joins Katten Environment, Safety Team**

Natalia Sorgente, a former associate deputy U.S. attorney general and former chief of staff at the Justice Department's Environment and Natural Resources division, has joined Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP as a partner in its environmental and workplace safety litigation practices, the firm announced July 20.

### *Forests*

#### **Germany to Review Amazon Fund Support Over Brazil Forest Bill**

Germany will reassess its donations to a Brazilian anti-deforestation fund if Congress approves a government-sponsored bill to reduce protections of a large national forest in the Amazon.

### *Motor Vehicles*

#### **Chrysler Touting Minivan's Electric Plug, but Only in California**

Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV has taken a curious approach to marketing the only minivan in the U.S. that can run on a rechargeable battery: just call the Pacifica model a hybrid, and leave out the plug-in part.

### *Natural Resources*

#### **Bill to Greenlight Road Through Alaska Refuge Passes House**

A road project through an Alaskan wildlife refuge that the Obama administration shelved has cleared the House in what could be the first big step toward jump-starting the King Cove roadway, a move long sought by Alaska's congressional delegation.

### *Natural Resources*

#### **Energy Industry Praises Trump Interior Pick's Alaska Background**

President Donald Trump's pick to oversee land management and resource development at the Interior Department will use his Alaska land-management experience to accelerate U.S. energy production, industry groups and colleagues say. Trump on July 19 announced his intention to nominate Joseph Balash, who serves as the chief of staff to Sen. Dan Sullivan (R-Alaska), as the assistant secretary for land and minerals management.

### *Oceans*

#### **A Coral Reef Gets an Insurance Policy of Its Own**

In the waters off Mexico's Caribbean coast, an insurance giant is about to test a new line of business, one designed to outperform governments in preparing for climate change—and create a fresh source of revenue.

### *Oil & Gas*

#### **Gas Field That Sprung Biggest Leak in U.S. History Set to Reopen**

Almost two years after the biggest gas leak in U.S. history sprung from a Sempra Energy natural gas storage field in Southern California, the state is ready for the complex to reopen.

### *Oil & Gas*

#### **Oil and Gas Companies Complying With Colorado's Pipeline Order**

Anadarko Petroleum Co. is shutting down more than 5,600 pipelines following a fatal home explosion three months ago in Firestone, Colo. caused by a severed natural gas line connected to one of the company's vertical wells, a company official told Bloomberg BNA.

### *Pesticides*

#### **EU Pressures Countries to Decide on Glyphosate Reauthorization**

The European Union floated the possibility that manufacturers of pesticides containing glyphosate could lose access to the EU market after 2017 if the bloc's member countries are unable to agree on a reauthorization for the chemical.

### *Pesticides*

#### **Federal Ban—and Anti-Pot EPA—Has States, Firms Scrambling**

With the stroke of a pen under a brown EPA seal, Administrator Scott Pruitt took a definitive stance on the agency's view on marijuana.

### *Regulatory Policy*

#### **Energy, Interior Nominees Get Mostly Friendly Reception**

Nominees for Energy Department and Interior Department posts received a mostly friendly nomination hearing July 20 amid questions over spending and changing management within the Trump administration.

### *Toxic Substances*

#### **KBR, Halliburton Win Dismissal of Vets' Burn Pit Claims**

KBR and Halliburton are not liable to veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan for injuries allegedly caused by the contractors' disposal of hazardous waste in burn pits, the District of Maryland ruled (*In re KBR, Inc., Burn Pit Litigation*, 2017 BL 250226, D. Md., No. 09-md-2083, 7/19/17).

### *Water Infrastructure*

#### **EPA Water Fund's Expansion Looks Likely on Capitol Hill**

Congress appears increasingly likely to expand the EPA's primary drinking water infrastructure fund after lawmakers from both parties and in both chambers expressed support.

### *Water Pollution*

#### **EPA's Clean Water Act Enforcement Moves to the Suburbs**

A Cleveland suburb will see its sewer rates quadruple as the EPA targets smaller cities for Clean Water Act enforcement.

### **Webinar: TSCA Hot Topics**

Bloomberg BNA and Bergeson & Campbell PC present a free webinar, "TSCA Hot Topics: Inventory Reset and Strategies for Complying, and Update on Section 5," with a panel of former EPA officials and seasoned regulatory professionals discussing how to prepare for TSCA Inventory Reset deadlines and an update on EPA's progress regarding the premanufacture notification decision backlog. Speakers include Lynn Bergeson, managing partner of Bergeson & Campbell PC; Charles M. ...

---

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms of Service](#) | [Manage Your Email](#) | [Contact Us](#)

1801 South Bell Street, Arlington, VA 22202

Copyright © 2017 The Bureau of National Affairs, Inc.

Daily Environment Report for EPA